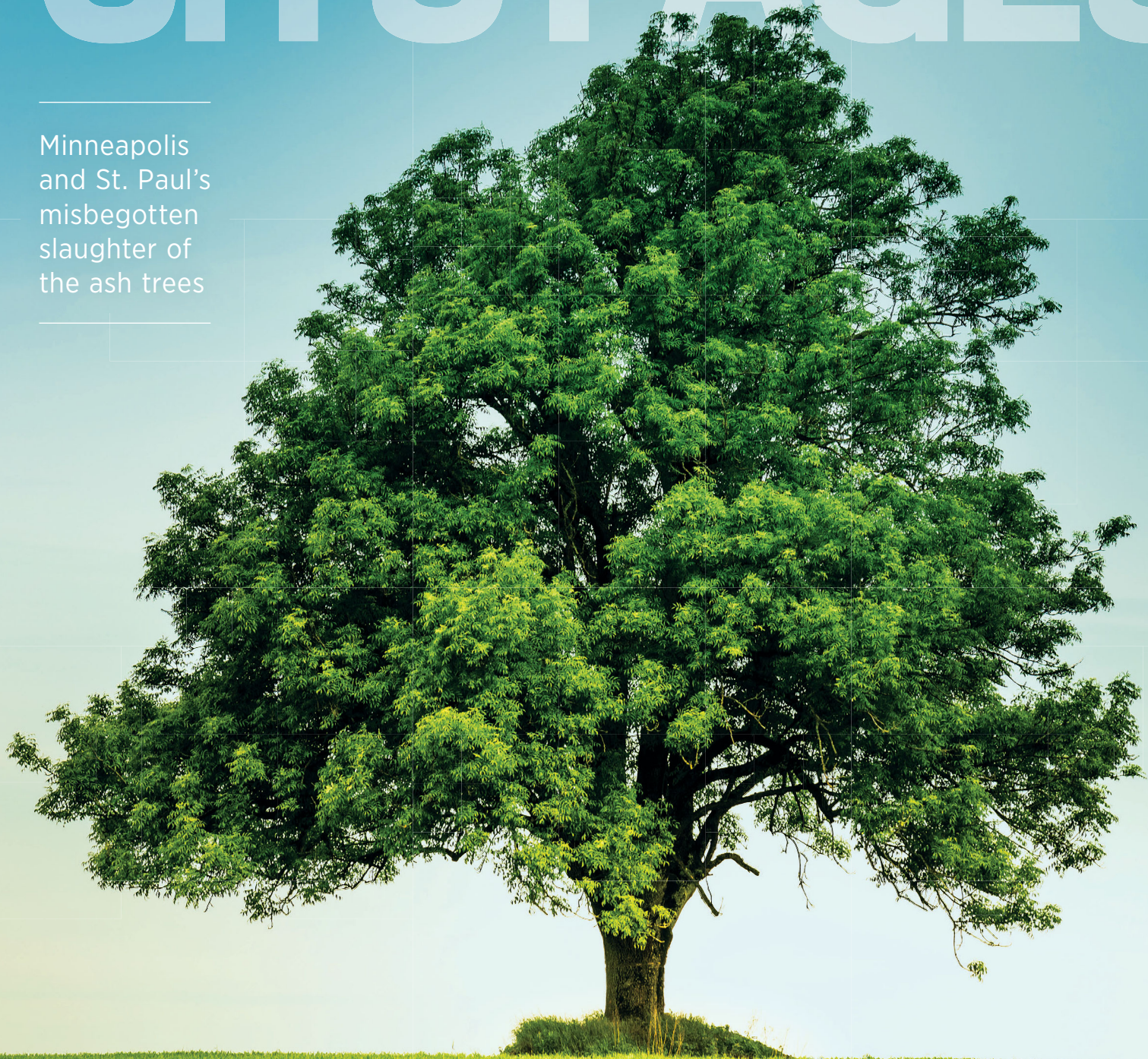


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Minneapolis
and St. Paul's
misbegotten
slaughter of
the ash trees



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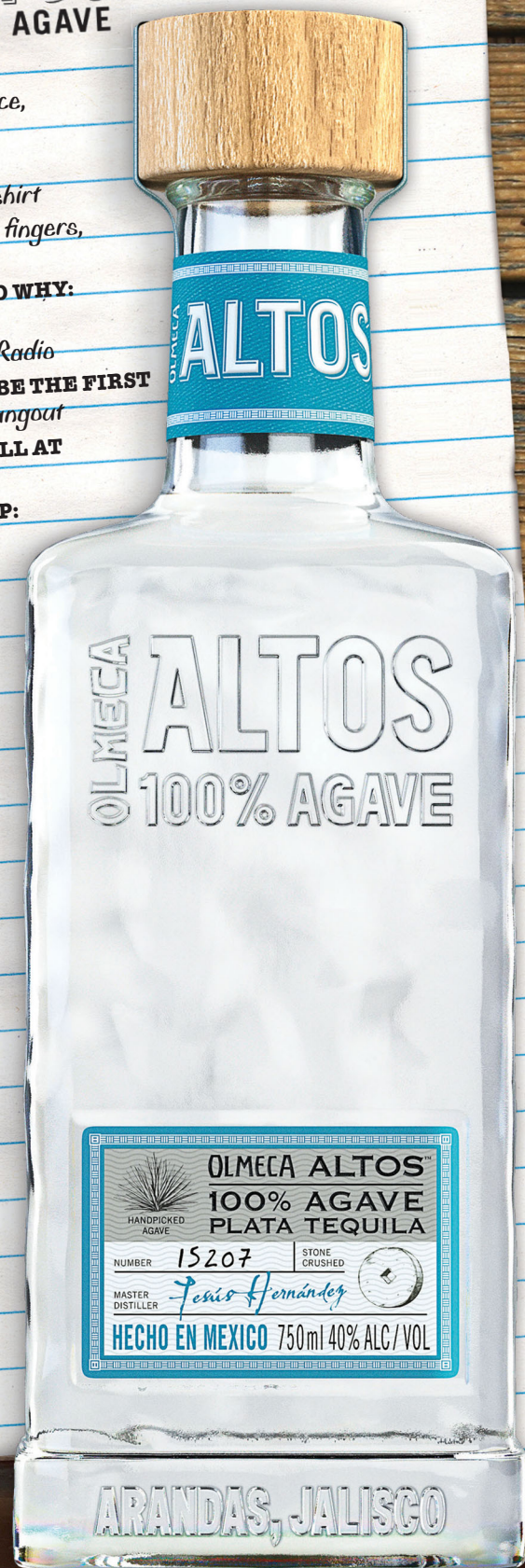
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Minneapolis and St. Paul's misbegotten slaughter of the ash trees

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Kari Hoglund

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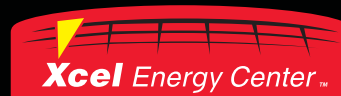
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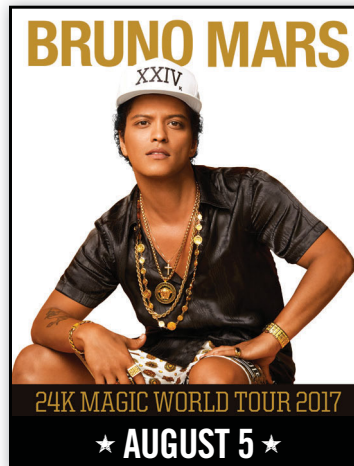
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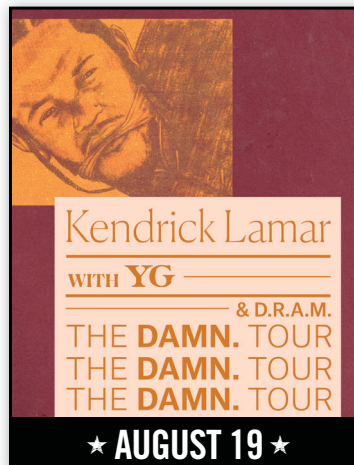
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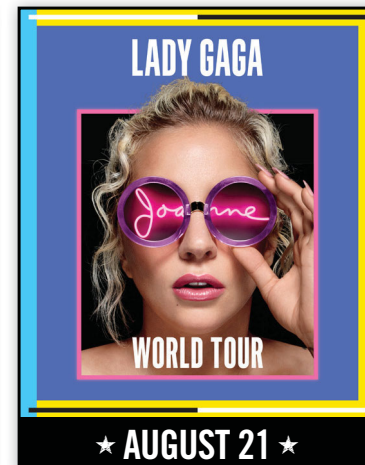
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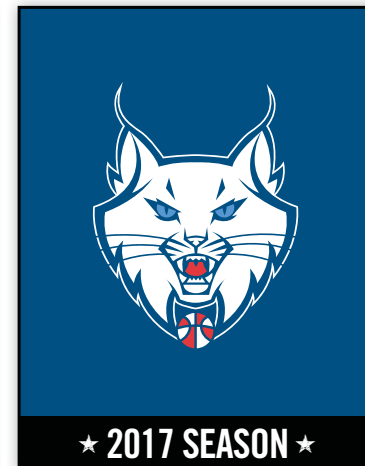
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Inspired by this this year's Uptown Art Fair Commemorative Artist, photographer Nicole Houff, the *All Dolled Up* diorama photo contest sponsored by City Pages and the Uptown Association allowed the public to actively participate in the Art Fair as well as showcase their own artistic talents. Over 150 entrants from the Twin Cities and across the country found unique ways to represent themselves or their organization.

To see all the entries and the complete list of winners go to UptownArtFair.com and click on "All Dolled Up Diorama Contest."



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THE SHORTLIST



Rock the Garden 2017:
A photo gallery
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STEVE COHEN

THE STAT SHEET

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Minnesota's ranking among the best states to grow up in, according to the Casey Foundation, which advocates on behalf of children.

36

Percentage of Americans who approve of President Trump's performance after six months, the worst rating since polling began with Harry Truman.

58

Percentage of Republicans who think colleges are bad for the country, apparently preferring to have a doctor who only passed his GED.

\$2.6 million

The St. Paul Police Department's estimated annual cost to respond to false burglar alarms.

"In general, activists typically are pretty clueless. They follow their heart and not their heads. And hearts are stupid as hell."

Reader Jeff Hislop responds to "Activists suspected in massive mink release only sentenced them to death," at citypages.com.

WINNING

AS REPUBLICANS struggle to create a health care plan that doesn't appear to be written by Cruella De Vil, absent from the quest to lower rates is any talk of an obvious solution: inoculating the system from parasites.

Pharmaceutical companies continue to prey on patients like medieval landlords. The price of insulin, for example, has tripled in the last decade, despite no new production costs. Meanwhile, Minnesota's UnitedHealth Group, the nation's largest health insurer, saw profits rocket 30 percent in the last quarter alone.

But there's a simple reason no one's looking to ding the parasites. UnitedHealth's PAC spent \$1 million buying Congress last year. Larry the diabetic from Shakopee spent nothing. Mind your own business, Larry.

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FATAL EMANCIPATION

Activists suspected in massive mink release only sentenced them to death

When suspected animal rights activists liberated some 40,000 mink from a Stearns County pelt farm last week, they didn't grant the animals emancipation. They assigned them a death sentence.

The mink were housed at Lang Farms near Eden Valley, a swath of central Minnesota dominated by croplands about 75 miles northwest of Minneapolis.

Handlers using fish nets have managed to recover fewer than 6,000, and 90 percent were dead.

As for the remaining 34,000 or so that remain on the lam, an equally brutal fate awaits.

Mink are carnivorous weasels. They eat just about any kind of creature that lives in and near water, including frogs, mice, and worms. The mink raised at Lang Farm had food provided to them, according to Andrea Strauss, wildlife and conservation expert with University of Minnesota Extension. Now that they have to earn their keep, it's not going to be pretty.

"My guess is their food was given to them," she says. "Yes, they most likely lived in confined spaces, but they didn't have to work for a living. Now they're going to have to hunt even though they've never learned how to do it, as it's a skill developed over time. Some could get injured by their prey. Some will starve. It's hard to say if they'll even know if they can acquire food."

The suspects range from animal rights activists to kids on an expensive lark.

Whatever their intentions, their plan was doomed from the get-go. It requires multiple acres of wetlands to support one mink with an ample food supply. Three to four animals can be sustained when living along streams.

In this part of Stearns County, Rice Lake is the most significant water body in the area. Yet it is miles away.

"There's no ecosystem in one square mile that can support 40,000 minks," Strauss says. "They're going to decimate the food supply. There was no chance that was going to go well under any circumstances."

In other words, tens of thousands of minks were freed into an ecosystem that was completely unable to sustain anything close to the numbers. As a result, many are starving to death. Some will attempt to enlarge their range in search of food and will become roadkill. Sustenance will be short-lived at best.

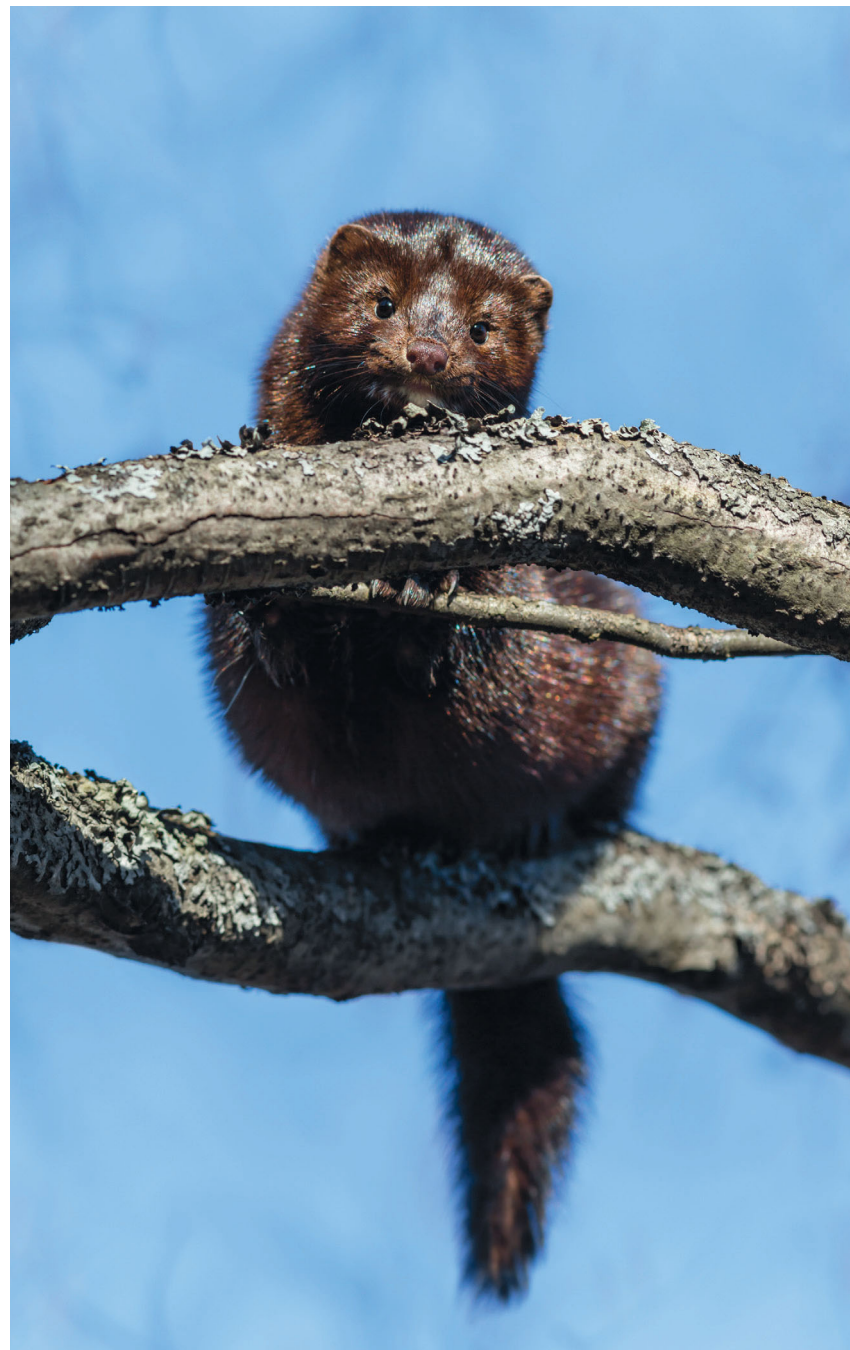
Strauss won't speculate on how many might survive. But their prospects are dismal. In the short term, the creatures that will benefit are turkey vultures.

"Your turkey vultures are going to have a heyday for a couple of weeks," she says. "They're going to have a smorgasbord and all the other scavenger species will have a smorgasbord, and then that will be over."

Repeated calls to Lang Farms went unanswered.

Meanwhile, the investigation has yet to yield "any concrete leads," says Stearns County Chief Deputy Jon Lentz.

—CORY ZUROWSKI



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Jade Patrick heard the chainsaws. She and her husband, James, had noticed a tree marked with a green “X” on a boulevard outside their East Phillips home, but didn’t think much of it.

“Oh my God,” Jade recalls thinking as she watched the ash tree die piece by piece. “There goes all of our shade in our back yard.... We were really sad.”

The tree was another victim of a killing spree taking place across the greater Twin Cities. It had yet to be infected with the emerald ash borer, the beetle ravaging ash trees across the country. But workers told them it was within a mile of one that was. That was close enough for the city of Minneapolis.

Terri Harder also found a green X this spring on the boulevard outside her home in Audubon Park. She likened it to a scarlet letter.

“Basically, I got a note saying they were removing it before it’s a problem, which is why I call it the death panel for trees. It’s always really sad to see a tree come down when it’s healthy.”

Over in the Macalester-Groveland neighborhood of St. Paul, Mary Lilly watched her entire block transform. Its ash trees were slaughtered in one fell swoop this spring. A letter from the city forester said the removal was part of a reconstruction project planned for her street next year.

Some neighbors were on spring break vacations when the letters arrived. They came home to find a neighborhood deforested.

“One of the explanations about why they came down was that they could not wait any longer, because they pose such a serious threat to safety, because the limbs could fly off,” Lilly says. “Well, I think every tree in the city could blow over, so maybe we should take them all down. That’s not a good reason, particularly if you’re not willing to test them and see that they’re all healthy.”

Minneapolis is about halfway through an eight-year plan to remove all 40,000 of its ash trees. St. Paul has already cut 9,000, with plans to kill 18,000 more. Yet some suburbs are taking a more proactive approach, heeding science that says Minnesota’s Great Tree Massacre needn’t be a massacre at all.

The agent instigating all this is a mere beetle. Known as the emerald ash borer, its larva feeds on ash bark, eventually killing the tree.

It’s a particularly rapacious murderer. The borer has killed hundreds of millions of North American trees since the early 2000s, prompting quarantines around the United States and Canada, where logs and



Why Did You **HAVE TO KILL ME?**

Minneapolis and St. Paul’s misbegotten
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BY SHEILA REGAN

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EMILY UTNE

wood chips can't be shipped abroad. The attack has cost cities, homeowners, and the forest industry millions.

The beetle was first discovered in the U.S. in 2002, when it hit southeastern Michigan near Detroit, devastating the ash tree population before spreading to other parts of the country.

According to Michael Orange, a former Minneapolis city planner, an adult female beetle will lay about 20 to 30 eggs in a tree. The babies then lay more eggs and move to neighboring trees. "It cuts off the circulation for the tree, which dies out," says Orange.

It may take three or four years, but the tree will eventually be killed from the top down. Branches become brittle and dangerous, a threat to fall.

Michigan chose an age-old military tactic to combat the menace: It would starve the beetle of its food supply. That meant wiping out its ash tree population, both healthy and sick. Other cities and states followed suit, sawing preemptively.

Ralph Sievert, director of forestry for Minneapolis' park board, sees it as taking one's medicine in one swift dollop, if only to hasten renewal with the planting of a mixed variety of new trees, allowing the city to better resist the next assault on its urban forest.

"Why not just bite the bullet, get the trees down and replaced in a time frame that is manageable for us, which is eight years?" he asks.

Orange believes that view is short-sighted, a sign that cities are underestimating the value of trees. Like much of nature, their benefits are not readily apparent.

Ash trees help with stormwater management by stopping the rain before it hits the ground, allowing a portion of the water to evaporate into the air. Their roots soak up water, while their canopies absorb pollutants.

A row of trees destined for death along Summit Avenue in St. Paul

Large shade trees boost property values and provide savings on electricity and natural gas. There's even an argument to be made that they reduce crime by attracting more people to public spaces, and increase people's shopping habits by creating a more pleasant experience as people walk from shop to shop.

According to the Tree Benefit Calculator developed by the U.S. Forest Service, most ash trees—which are around 21 inches in diameter because they were planted in the 1970s and '80s—are worth \$165 dollars in annual benefits. It may not sound like much in the grand scheme of municipal economics, but multiply that figure by 40,000, and it becomes a handsome treasure.

There's also the matter of simple aesthetics. Drive around St. Paul, and it's not hard to find once leafy neighborhoods that have been chain-sawed into something resembling a dusty subdivision in Oklahoma.

"To preemptively cut them down is really a waste of a prior investment and waste of resources," Orange says.

"The benefits are well-documented and quantifiable," says Jeffrey Hafner, Orange's son-in-law and an arborist for Rainbow Treecare. "A tree that's been growing in the community for 20 or 30 years is really at that peak return on investment."

Terri Harder, a real estate agent with Keller Williams, knows well the impact on property values that comes with denuding. "People look for mature trees in a neighborhood. That's the bummer of it, I think."

There is a way to save the trees—at least the healthier ones. It involves injecting their trunks with emamectin benzoate, which then gets transported into a tree's branches and leaves, where it kills beetles who ingest it. It protects healthy trees from getting infected, and slows an infected tree's demise.

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RICHARD SENNOTT/STAR TRIBUNE

It's also far cheaper than revving up the chainsaws. So say Michigan State University researchers Deborah McCullough and Rodrigo Mercader. Their study found that killing and replacing ash trees costs four times more than treating them. "Twenty percent of the ash trees could be treated for many years before treatment costs would approach removal and replacement costs," they wrote.

Injection costs can vary. According to Hafner, Rainbow Treecare charges about \$100 per treatment every two years—and less when a city operates in bulk.

Meanwhile, Minneapolis is paying between \$940 and \$1,835 to cut and replace each tree when costs like stump grinding and pruning are included, says Sievert. St. Paul's price averages about \$1,250, according to city forester Rachel Coyle.

But in an era where science has been kicked to the back seat, cost is only one factor.

Among liberals—including those who populate city halls—the anti-pesticide movement has taken on a religious fervor, so much so that the value of trees has become something of an afterthought.

Both Orange and Hafner assert that the insecticide carries low risk. Because it's injected into the trunk, there's little possibility of it seeping into soil. And because ash trees are pollinated by wind, not bees, there's little risk to critical pollinators.

Pest control is rarely black and white, right or wrong, adds Jeff Hahn, an entomologist from the University of Minnesota, who sees a tree's benefits outweighing the risks of insecticides. He supports a more targeted approach of treating the healthy and removing the badly infected.

Since the ash borer first hit Michigan, and even since it was discovered in St. Paul, science has advanced. "There's a whole wide range of tools that can be used to manage the infestation, and to slow it down," Orange says. "The real heart of the approach is to kill bugs, not trees. To save the best trees and replace the rest."

Orange has partnered with Hafner to create management plans for cities. Through the Minnesota Shade Tree Advisory Council, they've also spent the last

Since it appeared in Michigan in the early 2000s, the emerald ash borer has proved a rapacious killer.

three years trying to convince state legislators to allocate \$13 million annually to help cities manage the infestation. "We want cities to do the right thing, which is to use all the tools in the tool box," Orange says.

But with a dysfunctional legislature barely capable of handling everyday duties, and a Republican majority seeing little value in Mother Nature, their push has not seen daylight.

Not everyone is convinced that treatment is the answer. When an alarming collapse of bee colonies made national headlines, Minneapolis Councilman Cam Gordon urged the city to enact a bee-friendly resolution, which called for planting more pollinator forage and a phasing out of the city's use of insecticides.

Gordon is among the many with a visceral suspicion of chemicals, especially when it comes to something as important as bees, insects at the foundation of life.

"It kills them," he says. "Even if we allow more ash trees to go on living, I question the wisdom of pushing more of these systemic pesticides into the environment, where they may end up in the soil and water accumulating and entering new plants."

Gordon believes the risks of emamectin benzoate remain unknown. "I am probably more worried about the unknown, potentially health-destroying cumulative effects to people, as well as pollinators over time, as well as the high-dose impacts."

Gordon also accuses Orange of shilling for his clients. "Anything he provides is probably done so to further potential profits for his clients," he says. "Use of emamectin benzoate could bring millions to the industry."

Orange calls that nonsense. He spent 22 years as a Minneapolis city planner working on environmental issues, and now serves as a consultant to the Shade Tree Advisory Council, which isn't exactly a



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skill for Big Chem. Most of his tree work is “voluntary,” he says.

Yet Gordon does have scientists in his corner. They include Karen Oberhauser, a conservation biologist at the University of Minnesota, who believes it's time to bite the bullet. Cities have long made the mistake of planting singular species along their boulevards. Three decades ago, Dutch Elm Disease wiped out urban canopies the same way the ash borer is doing today.

“Hopefully, we’ll learn and plant a more diverse tree community to provide shade and property value,” she says.

Oberhauser contends pesticides are a short-term solution to a long-term problem. She agrees that emamectin benzoate won’t do much harm to bees. But the insecticide is toxic to other insects, such as the tiger swallowtail and giant silk moths. “The females can’t distinguish treated plants, so they are just as likely to lay their eggs on treated plants as untreated plants. This condemns their offspring to death.”

In suburbs like Burnsville, Chanhassen, St. Louis Park, and West St. Paul, the view isn’t so black and white. All have adopted more nuanced policies, classifying each public ash tree or group of trees to save the high quality (meaning larger, healthier ones that provide shade to streets and parks) and remove the low quality. St. Louis Park started its injection program last year. “We had about 1,000 trees that we rated good, so we wanted to keep those trees because of all the value that they provide, from storm water mitigation to cool air in our city, wildlife, and increased property values,” says Jim Vaughan, the city’s natural resource coordinator, who also serves as president of the state Tree Council.

Cost played a major role in St. Louis Park’s thinking. According to Vaughn,



JOHN EHLKE / ASSOCIATED PRESS

injecting two trees for 20 years would still cost less than removing one.

“Up-front costs of removing and replacing are tremendous, versus if you can delay it out and systematically inject trees, then remove some along the way, and plant some along the way,” he says. “The community would be much better off, and you’re not going to notice those big gaps in canopy that you do by just removing and replacing with tiny trees.”

Minnetonka is treating about 170 of its 500 ash trees on city land, not including forested areas. Treatment costs the city \$97 every two years, as opposed to the \$1,000-\$1,700 for removal.

“There hasn’t been any controversy,” says city forester Hannibal Hayes, “though there’s been a lot of questions and general concern about pollinators.”

Yet science faces an uphill fight these days. After years of fiascos wrought by Big Chem, liberals have developed a native distrust of most anything it produces, regardless of what the experts might say. Conservatives, meanwhile, have built a similar resistance to anything appearing

Researchers found that killing and replacing ash trees costs four times more than treating them.

to coddle Mother Nature. All of which leaves science a lonely voice in the middle.

U of M entomologist Jeffrey Hahn points to a call for ash tree preservation signed by etymologists, horticulturalists, and forestry experts from across the country. But that doesn’t mean anyone’s willing to listen. Even when preservation and economics share a mutual interest.

“We’ve been bolstered over the years when study after study points to not only trees being immensely beneficial to our communities, but that it costs less to preserve a tree than replace it,” says Hafner.

Some scientists, like Michigan State entomologist Deborah McCullough, believe killing trees en masse has hastened the ash borer’s spread.

“If you’re not killing beetles, if you are just taking down uninfected trees, then the number of beetles is the same, and they just fly further to the next ash tree,”

says Orange. “It was a failed approach.”

But science has always been political. Ask Galileo. These days, whether it’s climate change, vaccinations, or GMO farming, the perception of scientific fact gets colored by worldview, emotion, and economic factors that have little to do with the truth.

Minneapolis forester Ralph Sievert admits the city’s plan is in part fashioned by politics.

“The idea is that if we start removing and replacing before the beetle population got really big, we’d never have to think about using the treatment,” he says. “And then by not even thinking about using the treatment, we also avoid all the political ramifications of the whole perception that it’s affecting pollinators.”

He notes that if an expert came to a neighborhood meeting and was asked to guarantee pollinators wouldn’t die, the expert would balk. Nothing about nature comes with ironclad assurances. “I wouldn’t expect them to,” says Sievert, “but that’s the opinion of a lot of the pro-pollinator folks in Minneapolis.”

St. Paul has used insecticide to treat larger canopies that are healthy and in good condition. But Councilwoman Amy Brendmoen says the city has no plans to change course in cutting down the majority of its ashes.

It’s not an easy decision.

“My experience with our forestry department is that none of those foresters signed up to be foresters because they wanted to take down trees,” she says. “I have confidence that they are continuing to weigh the pros and cons....”

“If science does catch up, or if there are changes in how to treat them, this is what they are living day in and day out.”

In other words, the chainsaws will continue to rev. ☐

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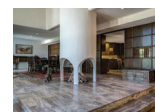
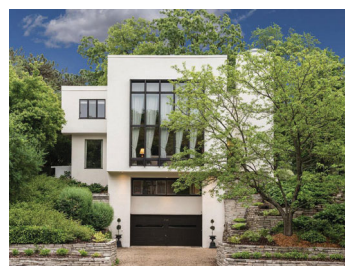
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A lobster roll at a Minnesota airport? Let Smack Shack pleasantly surprise you.

JOEL KOYAMA, STAR TRIBUNE

BY HANNAH SAYLE

Here's the straight dope: There is no airport meal that will beat its non-airport version in price or quality. Some truths we must accept.

But for the weary traveler who whimpers at the thought of another limp fast food burger, a feast of flavors awaits to break the curse of mediocre airport dining.

TERMINAL 1, LINDBERGH

The Best

The beauty of MSP's Terminal 1, home to the majority of airlines and the main hub for flights out of the Twin Cities, is that both the north and south security checkpoints dump you right at the edge of some

of the airport's best dining options. The Mall, an indoor boulevard of shops and restaurants, sits smack dab in the middle of everything, with separate concourses radiating out from its central locus.

AIRPORT MALL

BREAKFAST/BRUNCH: In an industry where sugar-laden yogurt parfaits tend to languish in open-air coolers, **French Meadow** serves real-deal breakfast on real (okay, plastic) plates. The kitchen turns out dozens of exemplary protein-packed breakfast options: eggs and toast, organic oatmeal, breakfast burritos, fruit and nut pancakes, and abundant pastries.

LUNCH: It's pricey, but the **Smack Shack** lobster roll (\$21.95) outshines your typical grab-and-go bite and comes with addictive

Cajun-spiced fries and bright slaw. They also do a decadent lobster Hollandaise egg sandwich for breakfast, in case the more sensible start at French Meadow isn't your bag.

SNACK: If the hour of your layover calls for a leisurely nosh, opt for the cheese plate (3 for \$13, 5 for \$17, with bread, crackers, olives, and fruit compote) at **Lake Wine Kitchen + Bar**, and supersize your leisure with a wine flight. They've also got bruschetta, crostini, and hummus small plates for more nibbling, and an array of sandwiches and entrees. Take your cava and a seat on the "patio" in the center of the mall and watch travelers hustling to make flights, if you're into that.

DINNER: Fans of **Black Sheep Pizza's** coal-fired pie will find all their favorite

varieties—the hearty meatball, ricotta, and garlic or the chicken and pickled peppers—in 10-inch rounds. If you're trapped here in the wee hours of the morning, there are a handful of breakfast pizzas, such as the bacon, mushroom, and egg pie.

When you've planned for a long layover or run into an unplanned delay, coast into **Ike's Food and Cocktails**, one of the few restaurants that actually feels totally separate from the foot traffic and noise. You will feel briefly transported to a cozy supper club, with glowing golden orb scones and beckoning mahogany booths. Grab an ice cold martini and a bacon-wrapped steak and channel the days when flying was an elegant affair.

DRINKS: **Stone Arch** is a beer emporium on the mall's southern edge, with a tap list boasting Surly, Fulton, Bent Paddle,



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ISAAC HALE, STAR TRIBUNE

Insight, Indeed, Utepils, Summit... the list goes on. We were especially keen on the selection of bombers, 750mL of specialty beers like the 56 Brewing Dark Chocolate Coconut Stout. They also open at a shocking 4:30 a.m. with a surprisingly extensive breakfast menu, including some reasonably healthy options.

CONCOURSE E

BREAKFAST/BRUNCH: In a new section designated "Food Truck Alley," find burgers, brunch, and bloody Marys at **Red Cow**. Looking for a quicker, sweeter bite? Peruse the selection of exquisite pastries by **Salty Tart**, sold out of an old-timey truck parked in the terminal.

LUNCH: The Mediterranean flair of **Holy Land Deli** might be our favorite addition to the restaurant roster, largely because of the relative dearth of fast-casual Mediterranean food in American airports. Go for a full-on plate of stuffed grape leaves or lamb kebab if you have time to wait; otherwise grab one of their many flavors of hummus and a container of to-die-for pita chips and happily wipe the memory of Sabra from your mind.

DESSERT/COFFEE: Across from the robin's-egg-blue Salty Tart truck, find the glimmering white **Angel Food Bakery**, where some of the prettiest and tastiest donuts are baked on-site. The coconut brown butter cookies are not to be missed. Then mosey down toward the tail end of the concourse to find **Roasting Plant**, a very fancy coffee joint with an emphasis on a variety of beans roasted right in the shop.

DINNER: Also near the last gates of Concourse E, **LOLO American Kitchen** presents a viable sit-down dinner option. LOLO, which stands for Locally Owned,

Locally Operated, is native to Stillwater, and does cheffed-up standards like Korean BBQ tacos and burgers topped with pork belly or bacon jam.

CONCOURSE F

BREAKFAST/BRUNCH: Another outpost of **French Meadow** offers all the variety of healthy, organic morning meals you could possibly need while jetsetting, but traveling occasionally calls for something a bit stiffer. If you need a cocktail instead, venture deeper into the concourse to **Ike's on Summit**, where an epic bloody Mary stuffed with garnishes awaits.

CONCOURSE G

BREAKFAST/BRUNCH: What's better than a breakfast from a French brasserie? Beloved local chef Russell Klein of Meritage knew as much when he opened **Mimosa**. This charming little spot at the head of Concourse G evokes gay Paris, complete with bubbly, eye-opening cocktails, French toast, crepes, and eggs Benedict. The only sticking point may be the iPad ordering system; if you forget to swipe your credit card, your order won't go through.

LUNCH: Ramen isn't the most common airport offering, but **Shoyu** has been serving bowls here for years. Stick with pork ramen and dumplings and shy away from the sushi—remember, you're in a landlocked state. And an airport.

DINNER: If your hankering is for Italian fare, Doug Flicker's **Volante** should be at the top of your list. Grab a glass of vino and a plate of spaghetti all'amatriciana and then cruise right into your in-flight nap. More interested in rustic American classics in a finer setting? **Mill City Tavern** does things you never envisioned an

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FOOD

airport restaurant doing. Steelhead trout gravlax and a Berkshire pork loin chop, for instance.

The Rest

CONCOURSE A, B, C

For Concourse A and C travelers, a jaunt to the Airport Mall is still your best option for dining. If a sprint to the center of the terminal is out of the question, accept your fast food fate (Pei Wei, Dairy Queen Grill 'n' Chill, Chick-Fil-A, etc.), succumb to the sports bar (**Twins Grill**, a nondescript but locally branded sports bar with a red-blooded American menu that neither delights nor offends), or wash away your cares with wine at the **Vino Volo** chain, a popular wine bar known for flights and small plates.

Where Concourse C ends and splits off into A and B, you'll spy the **Itasca Grille**, another generic, vaguely Minnesota-branded restaurant that serves walleye sandwiches and grilled meatloaf. Just across the walkway is a second small food court with Quizno's, Godfather's Pizza, A&W, and Caribou Coffee. Beyond these refueling hubs, you're on your own, with only the modest **Skol Café** in Concourse A to save you from starvation.

God help you if you're traveling in or out of Concourse B. The only food option that awaits is **Home Team Sports**, another generic bar, this one without the wherewithal to actually name the home team.

CONCOURSE D

This wee concourse has just two dining options in the vicinity, but the Airport Mall is just a quick walk away. Within D, McDonald's sits mirror opposite burger-and-beer bar **Republic**, where musicians from McNally Smith College of Music regularly perform on a small stage. Best to stick to the burgers here; a recent attempt at fish tacos was mightily underwhelming.

TERMINAL 2, HUMPHREY

Options are predictably limited for the smaller of the two terminals. But if you're flying Southwest, Icelandair, Condor, or Sun Country, don't fret. **Surdyk's Flights** still operates its popular wine, cheese, panini, and salad shop in Terminal 2. A number of breakfast options—poached eggs on grilled bread, scones, yogurt and granola—will ease the morning hangries. And **Cocina del Barrio** does tacos and tequila, for when the layover calls for a quick fiesta, followed by plane siesta. ☐

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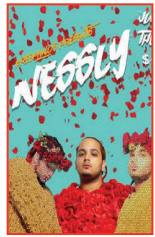


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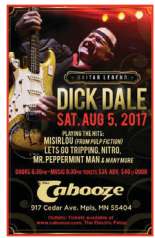
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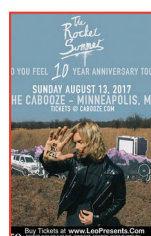
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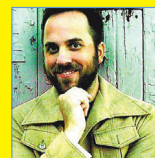


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COMEDY

J CHRIS NEWBERG

RICK BRONSON'S HOUSE OF COMEDY

If you're wondering why we haven't seen J Chris Newberg in person for a while, ponder no more. "I've been working on a bunch of new shows, writing and producing," he explains. "I think I've done 265 episodes between *Idiotest* and a new [Game Show Network program] called *Emogenius*." He has, nonetheless, still found time to come up with a new hour of material for his standup set. And, yes, he will still bring his guitar onstage—he loves to sing and write songs—but that's not the focus of his comedy. "I don't want to be 'that guitar comic,'" he adds. Otherwise, he's talking about his life at 47 and his take on aging. "Everybody ages," he notes, "but I'm sort of taking the mindset of looking at my attempts to continuously think and feel younger." With that, though, comes understanding the limitations that arrive with age. He uses retired NBA star Kobe Bryant as an example. "He was like, 'My mind knows exactly what to do, my body just can't do it anymore.'" Newberg adds, "I hurt my ankle getting out of bed." 18+; 21+ later shows. 7:30 p.m. Wednesday through Friday; 9:45 p.m. Friday; 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday; 9:30 p.m. Saturday. \$13-\$22. 408 E. Broadway, Mall of America, Bloomington; 952-858-8558. **Through Sunday** —P.F. WILSON

COMEDY

ANDREW SCHULZ

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You may recognize Andrew Schulz as a headlining standup, but you likely know him best from one of his many TV gigs, such as the hockey-themed sitcom *Benders* or MTV's *Guy Code*. He'll next appear as a cast member of the Seeso series *There's... Johnny*, which takes place behind the scenes of *The Tonight Show* in the early '70s. "The TV thing kind of just happened," he explains. "Getting on



LIZA SYLVESTRE

TV was never a main objective, but that's changed now. If I get on TV, I can do more standup." Fans around the country still recall his work on *Guy Code*. "It's great to be on a show like that and then get up onstage and 'boom,' I'm this guy." While many lament MTV for its promotion of the reality TV genre, Schulz is not among them. "Everybody blames MTV for not playing music," he says, "but you've got to blame people for that. MTV played music for the same

reason McDonald's sells hamburgers. If customers don't support it, then they're not going to continue to sell it." What really killed music videos, he notes, was the internet. "If I want to see a video I just search for it on YouTube. I'm not going to sit around all day and wait for them to play the new 50 Cent video." 18+. 8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday; 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. \$15-\$18. 708 N. First St., Minneapolis; 612-338-6393. **Through Saturday** —P.F. WILSON

PERFORMANCE

TIM AND ERIC AWESOME SHOW

HISTORIC STATE THEATRE

Since debuting on Cartoon Network's Adult Swim with *Tom Goes to the Mayor*, the comedic partnership of Tim Heidecker and Eric Wareheim has cultivated a devoted following that has only grown with subsequent programs like *Tim & Eric Awesome Show, Great Job!*, and *Tim & Eric's Bedtime Stories*. Whether peddling the brazenly hazardous products of the Cinco Corporation, satirizing celebrity fixations, or seeking inept therapy from the woefully unqualified Dr. Steven Brule (memorably portrayed by John C. Reilly), Tim and Eric have forged a career from irreverent humor that subverts the expectations of easy punchlines for more insightful and outlandish material. This approach is particularly evident during their live performances, as the duo delights in misdirecting audiences with standard sketch setups before flinging the act into the realm of the surreal. Onstage, the pair is prone to interacting with the audience, a tendency that often means selecting participants for gags, games, and improvisational riffs. This latest appearance, denoting their 10th Anniversary Awesome Tour, promises a celebration of the aberrant hysterics that define these two comically twisted minds. 8 p.m. \$42.50. 805 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis; 612-339-7007. —BRAD RICHASON

BOOKS

PRAYERS FOR PUSSIES: A CONVERSATION

THE LOFT LITERARY CENTER

Back in January, poet Junauda Petrus spoke out about her poem, titled "Prayer for Pussies," which had been censored by a public art project. Petrus was one of several poets commissioned to write three pieces each that would be part of a sculpture created by Blessing Hancock for Nicolle

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23 ►

COMING TO THE DAKOTA



PHAROAH SANDERS
JULY 25-26



R&B CADETS
Funky R&B Soul
JULY 28



DAVINA AND THE VAGABONDS
JULY 29-30

CASEY JAMES
PASSIONATE BLUES FROM
AMERICAN IDOL SUPERSTAR
JULY 27
7PM



TIEMPO LIBRE BOHEMIA QUARTET
AUGUST 1



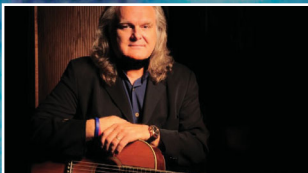
PARIS CHANSONS
Captivating French Jazz & Pop
AUGUST 2-3



DONNA GRANTIS
3RDEYEGIRL Fiery Guitarist
AUGUST 4



ACOUSTIC HOT TUNA
AUGUST 5



RICKY SKAGGS & KENTUCKY THUNDER
AUGUST 7



CYRILLE AIMÉE
Charismatic French Vocals
AUGUST 8



SEPTETO SANTIAGUERO
Exhilarating Cuban Jazz
AUGUST 9



RODNEY CROWELL
AUGUST 10-11



NICOLE ATKINS
Lush Retro Pop
AUGUST 12



IRV WILLIAMS'S 98TH BIRTHDAY
AUGUST 13



RUTHIE FOSTER
Soulful Roots Gospel
AUGUST 14-15



BEN SIDRAN
AUGUST 16

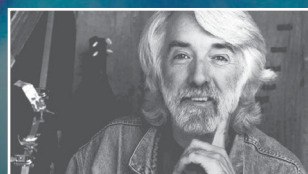


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AUGUST 17

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& FRIENDS: Will the Circle be Unbroken
AUGUST 18



RUSTED ROOT
AUGUST 19



LUTHER DICKINSON AND THE COLLABORATORS
AUGUST 22

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COURTESY OF FLOW

CONTINUED FROM WEDNESDAY ►

Avenue. Due to the content of “Prayer for Pussies,” which included words like “coochie” and “clitoris,” Petrus was asked by city officials to submit a different work. Taking that incident as a jumping-off point, Petrus, along with Erin Sharkey, her collaborator from the artist group Free Black Dirt, will be part of a conversation at the Loft this week about the role of artists as resisters of repression. Petrus and Sharkey will share their own work in all its sensual, queer, female, and Afro-futuristic glory, taking on everything from white supremacy to rape culture as they mitigate how artists can work against tyranny. 7 p.m. \$10. 1011 Washington Ave. S., Ste. 200, Minneapolis; 612-215-2575. —SHEILA REGAN

THURSDAY 7.27

FESTIVAL

FLOW NORTHSIDE ARTS CRAWL

NORTH MINNEAPOLIS

For the past 12 years, FLOW has showcased creative talent and businesses on the North Side. During the three-day festival, hundreds of artists will share their work at street festivals, special receptions, and hands-on happenings. There will be large-scale creations, street parties with live music, delicious foods from local restaurants, and fun for kids. Stroll through the area, take in some free festival happenings, and meet your neighbors. For a complete schedule and for links to free bus passes to the event, visit www.northmpls.org. 6 to 10 p.m. Thursday; 3 to 10 p.m. Friday; 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday. While most

events are free, some happenings are ticketed. West Broadway Avenue, from the Mississippi River to Penn Avenue, Minneapolis. **Through Saturday —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER**

COMEDY

SARA SCHAEFER

THE JOKE JOINT COMEDY CLUB

You might not immediately recognize Sarah Schaefer by name, but even the most casual comedy fan has seen her around. With a résumé that boasts multiple appearances on Comedy Central’s *@Midnight*, a co-hosting slot on MTV’s *Nikki and Sara Live*, a litany of writing credits, and a standup set on *Late Night With Jimmy Fallon*, Schaefer is ubiquitous in the comedy arena. And for good reason, too. “I like to save up my tears,” Schaefer jokes on her acclaimed debut album, *Chrysalis*. “I let it build and build until it’s about to blow, then I step into an art museum and I let it rip because I like to make the other people in the museum think that I just get the art more than they do.” You’ve probably already seen (and heard) Schaefer from the comfort of your living room; here’s your chance to see her live. 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday; 9:45 p.m. Friday and Saturday. \$14-\$26. 801 Sibley Memorial Hwy., Lilydale; 651-330-9078. **Through Saturday —RAGHAV MEHTA**

ART

MINNEAPOLIS ART LENDING LIBRARY SUMMER LENDING EVENT

POWDERHORN RECREATION CENTER

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 28 ►

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ART

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MUSIC

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FOOD

23 Food Vendors
Culinary Arts Competition

FAMILY

Art Activities
Youth Art Fair

FUN

& More!

4

FRIDAY
12PM - 8PM

5

SATURDAY
10AM - 8PM

6

SUNDAY
10AM - 5PM

where lake meets hennepin

GRANDSTAND

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Concert Series sponsored by
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★★★★★★



NICKELBACK

THURSDAY, AUG. 24



STEVIE NICKS

FRIDAY, AUG. 25



JIM GAFFIGAN

SATURDAY, AUG. 26

NICKELBACK with special guest **Daughtry**
Thursday, Aug. 24, 7:30 p.m. • \$80 & \$65

STEVIE NICKS
with special guest **Vanessa Carlton**
Friday, Aug. 25, 7:30 p.m. • \$90, \$74 & \$49

JIM GAFFIGAN
Saturday, Aug. 26, 8 p.m. • \$60 & \$50

TOBY KEITH with special guest **3 Doors Down**
Sunday, Aug. 27, 7:30 p.m.
\$101, \$77, \$68.50, \$53 & \$23

FRANKIE VALLI & THE FOUR SEASONS
Monday, Aug. 28, 8 p.m. • \$29

JOHN MELLENCAMP
with special guest **Carlene Carter**
Tuesday, Aug. 29, 7:30 p.m. • \$64 & \$49

PENTATONIX with special guest to be announced
Wednesday, Aug. 30, 8 p.m. • \$50 & \$40
Very limited seating available

USHER with special guest **Black Coffee**
Thursday, Aug. 31, 7:30 p.m. • \$97, \$87 & \$72

THE MINNESOTA SHOW with
GARRISON KEILLOR
Friday, Sept. 1, 7:45 p.m. • \$36 & \$28

THE CURRENT'S MUSIC ON-A-STICK
featuring **PHANTOGRAM**
with special guests **Lucius** and **Now, Now**
Saturday, Sept. 2, 7 p.m. • \$25

MSF AMATEUR TALENT CONTEST FINALS
Sunday, Sept. 3, 7:30 p.m. • FREE

SAM HUNT
with special guests **LANCO** and **Ryan Follese**
Monday, Sept. 4, 7 p.m. • \$68 & \$58
Very limited seating available



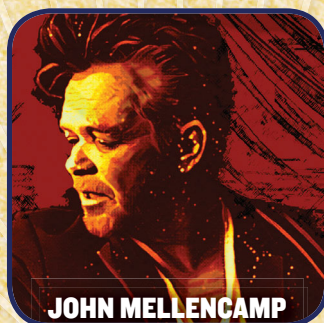
TOBY KEITH

SUNDAY, AUG. 27



FRANKIE VALLI & THE FOUR SEASONS

MONDAY, AUG. 28



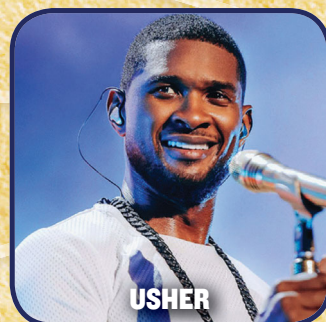
JOHN MELLENCAMP

TUESDAY, AUG. 29



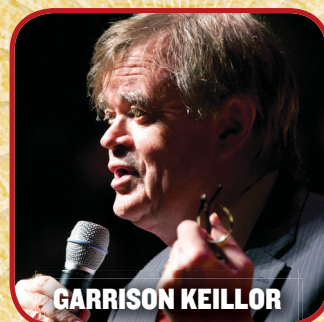
PENTATONIX

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 30



USHER

THURSDAY, AUG. 31



GARRISON KEILLOR

FRIDAY, SEPT. 1



PHANTOGRAM

SATURDAY, SEPT. 2



AMATEUR TALENT CONTEST FINALS

SUNDAY, SEPT. 3



SAM HUNT

MONDAY, SEPT. 4

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AUG. 24 & 25



GEORGE CLINTON & PARLIAMENT FUNKADELIC
AUG. 26 & 27



CHRIS JANSON
AUG. 28 & 29



TANYA TUCKER
AUG. 30 & 31



FOGHAT
SEPT. 1 & 2



HIPPO CAMPUS
SEPT. 3 & 4

★ ★ ★ **LEINIE LODGE BANDSHELL** *Daytime Shows* ★ ★ ★

AUG. 24 & 25:
Joni Harms
Tonic Sol-fa
Dailey & Vincent



AUG. 26 & 27:
Sammy Arriaga
Roddie Romero & the Hub City All-Stars
The Loving Mary Band



AUG. 28 & 29:
The 34th Infantry Division
"Red Bull" Band
Hot Club of Cowtown
The Malpass Brothers



SEPT. 1 & 2:
Kazual
Mary Sarah
JD McPherson



SEPT. 3 & 4:
Monroe Crossing
Tank and The Bangas



James Andrews and The Crescent City All-Stars
C. Willi Myles



WEST END AT SUNSET



THE BIG WU
AUG. 24 & 25



THE PINES
AUG. 26 & 27



NOOKY JONES
AUG. 28 & 29



ROMANTICA
AUG. 30 & 31



BAD BAD HATS
SEPT. 1 & 2



HEIRUSPECS
SEPT. 3 & 4



BAZAAR AFTER DARK



CHRIS HAWKEY
AUG. 24 & 25



CHARANGA TROPICAL
AUG. 26 & 27



TAKIN' IT TO THE LIMIT:
AN EAGLES TRIBUTE
AUG. 28 & 29



THE GOOD, THE BAD
AND THE FUNKY
AUG. 30 & 31



COREY STEVENS
SEPT. 1 & 2



AMBASSADORS
OF CULTURE
SEPT. 3 & 4

Visit mnstatefair.org for the complete lineup including all acts, dates and showtimes. All information subject to change.
Leinie Lodge Bandsell, Schell's Stage at Schilling Amphitheater and International Bazaar performances are free with fair admission. Grandstand shows require ticket purchase.

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UP NEXT FIRST AVENUE MAINROOM

JUL 28
WONDER WOMEN
DANCE PARTY CELEBRATING
THE MUSIC OF WHITNEY,
JANET, PAULA, SADE, SELENA,
EN VOGUE, AND MORE
FT. DJ MISS BRIT, MIKE 2600, YSHEYELLIN
(AKA MINA MOORE), DJ BONICS

JUL 29
MIKE STUD
WITH CAL SCRUBY

AUG 04 89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS
THE SUBURBS
HEY MUSE! RECORD RELEASE SHOW
AND 40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
WITH RYAN AND PONY,
DJ JAKE RUDH (TRANSMISSION)

AUG 05 FOREVER YOUNG PRESENTS
BUMP N' GRIND
THROWBACK R&B DANCE PARTY
WITH DJ FLIPSTYLE, DJ COPPER BOOM,
MANNY DUKE
HOSTED BY (CLOUD)

AUG 10
TAKING BACK SUNDAY
WITH EVERY TIME I DIE, ALL GET OUT

AUG 11 MOXIE, TEE SQUARED
AND 89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENT
REBEL, REBEL
ROCK FOR PUSSY XIII -
A TRIBUTE TO DAVID BOWIE
WITH ALL-STAR BAND LED BY JOHN ELLER
HOSTED BY MARY LUCIA, DAVE CAMPBELL

AUG 12 '80s vs. '90s
ELECTRIC FETUS PRESENTS
TRANSMISSION:
'80S VS. '90S
FT. DJ JAKE RUDH

AUG 18 CITY PAGES PRESENTS
JESSE LARSON
WITH #MPLS, ALEX ROSSI
WITH KAT PERKINS

AUG 19
FLIP PHONE XXL: SHORT SHORTS
THE BEST OF THE FLIP PHONE ERA
(LATE 90S-EARLY 00S)
FT. PEARL (RUPAUL'S DRAG RACE)
WITH DJ FANCY RESTAURANT, KAMAREE
WILLIAMS, JULIA STARR, TYGRA SLARII,
THE OTHER JEANNIE RETELLE, MAGIC DYKE

AUG 22
SIMPLE PLAN
'NO PADS, NO HELMETS... JUST BALLS'
15TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR
WITH SET IT OFF, PATENT PENDING

AUG 24
WASHED OUT

AUG 25
FIRE AF
CONTEMPORARY RAP PARTY
WITH DJ BVCKWOODS, DJ GREENERY,
AND MORE
HOSTED BY (CLOUD)

AUG 26 DARK ENERGY PRESENTS
VAMPIRE'S BALL
A RETROSPECTIVE COSTUME PARTY
DEDICATED TO THE MUSIC AND STYLE
OF GOTH SUBCULTURE IN THE '80S

AUG 29 FIRST AVENUE AND JAM PRESENT
MIDNIGHT OIL
THE GREAT CIRCLE TOUR
WITH THE LIVING END

SEP 03
**A BENEFIT FOR PAUL
MARTIN'S SHINE A
LIGHT7 FOUNDATION**
FT. THE SHANE MARTIN BAND

SEP 12
OH WONDER
ULTRALIFE TOUR
WITH JAYMES YOUNG

SEP 13 X
40TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR
WITH SKATING POLLY

SEP 15
**J RODDY WALSTON
AND THE BUSINESS**

SEP 17
THUNDERCAT

SEP 18
ANDREW W.K.

SEP 19
DEAD CROSS
WITH SECRET CHIEFS 3

SEP 21
THE AFGHAN WHIGS
WITH HAR MAR SUPERSTAR

SEP 23 89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS
JOSEPH
WITH BAILLEN

SEP 26
**REVEREND HORTON
HEAT, FISHBONE
AND STRUNG OUT**
WITH LOS KUNG FU MONKEYS

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SEP 29
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SEP 30
THE FLOOZIES
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W/ BOOMBOX, LATE NIGHT RADIO

OCT 01
FUTURE ISLANDS
W/ JENNY BESETZT

OCT 02
ANGEL OLSEN
W/ MOUNT MORIAH

OCT 07
BLUE OCTOBER
W/ THE SCORE

OCT 08
TOADIES
W/ LOCAL H

OCT 20
RON POPE
W/ AGES AND AGES, THE HEART OF

OCT 22
NEEDTOBREATHE
ALL THE FEELS TOUR
W/ THE BRUMMIES

OCT 26
HAMILTON LEITHAUSER
W/ COURTNEY MARIE ANDREWS

OCT 27
WOLF PARADE
W/ CHARLY BLISS

UP NEXT 7TH ST ENTRY

THE COATHANGERS
W/ RESIDUELS, KILLMAMA
WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

**BROTHERS GOW AND
MOMENTARY LAPSE
OF FLOYD**
THURSDAY, JULY 27

JACEO AND FRESKO
W/ LUME, WINDSOR
FRIDAY, JULY 28

tiny deaths
W/ TEENAGE MOODS,
GAY HENRY, DJ ANDREW BRODER
SATURDAY, JULY 29

DIAMONDS
W/ HEEL, CANTHARONE
SUNDAY, JULY 30

**EARLY EYES, HARDCASTLE,
AND LOVE SEQUENCE**
MONDAY, JULY 31

JESSE MALIN
W/ ANTHONY D'AMATO, NICK LEET
TUESDAY, AUGUST 1

**REAL NUMBERS
TOUR KICKOFF**
W/ FINESSE, LOUD SUN, BATHTUB CIG
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2

UP NEXT TURF CLUB

WAREHOUSE EYES
W/ ELKAVON, aundi
WEDNESDAY, JULY 26 FREE W/ RSVP

**SLIM CESSNA'S
AUTO CLUB**
W/ SWALLOWS
THURSDAY, JULY 27

ANDRÉ CYMONE
W/ ZULUZULU
FRIDAY, JULY 28

IMPALER
W/ THE REGENERATORS, THE
GRANDE MACHINE, AND MORE
SATURDAY, JULY 29

EDDIE IFFT
THE BINGLE ALL THE WAY TOUR
MONDAY, JULY 31

**RON GALLO AND
SLOTHRUST**
W/ RATBOYS
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2

PARKER MILLSAP
W/ SUPERIOR SIREN (SOLO)
THURSDAY, AUGUST 3

HUMAN HEAT AND P • PL
W/ BEASTHEAD
FRIDAY, AUGUST 4

**WINGMAN, JAGAJA,
AND CANDID KID**
SATURDAY, AUGUST 5

**BOSON, TRITA,
AND CYMOTHÓA**
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9

UP NEXT PALACE THEATRE



JUL 26
SOCIAL DISTORTION
W/ JADE JACKSON

AUG 03
GARY CLARK JR.
W/ JACKIE VENSON

AUG 05
BRYAN FERRY
W/ JUDITH OWEN

AUG 15
BELLE AND SEBASTIAN
W/ JULIEN BAKER

AUG 25
2 CHAINZ
PRETTY GIRLS LIKE TRAP MUSIC TOUR 2017
W/ YOUNG DOLPH

SEP 07
CONOR OBERST
W/ PHOEBE BRIDGERS

SEP 27
GLASS ANIMALS

SEP 28
BROKEN SOCIAL SCENE
HUG OF THUNDER TOUR 2017
W/ FRIGHTENED RABBIT

OCT 01
FLEET FOXES
W/ NAP EYES

OCT 10
PIXIES
W/ MITSKI

OCT 14
IRON & WINE
W/ JOHN MORELAND

OCT 18
THE WAR ON DRUGS

UP NEXT OTHER VENUES

BALLYHOO!
W/ KASH'D OUT,
MARK JOSEPH ACOUSTIC
TRIPLE ROCK
WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

BOB SCHNEIDER
W/ TRAVIS LINVILLE
FINE LINE
SATURDAY, JULY 29

**MICHAEL FRANTI
& SPEARHEAD**
"LOVE OUT LOUD TOUR 2017"
CABOOZE OUTDOOR PLAZA
FRIDAY, AUGUST 18

FATHER JOHN MISTY
W/ TENNIS
SURLY BREWING FESTIVAL FIELD
SATURDAY, AUGUST 19

PROF OUTDOORS 4
W/ SHREDDERS (FT. P.O.S, SIMS,
LAZERBEAK, AND PAPER TIGER),
THE UNDERACHIEVERS, MAC LETHAL,
FINDING NOVYON, AND MORE
CABOOZE OUTDOOR PLAZA
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

**THAO (OF THE GET
DOWN STAY DOWN)**
W/ YOWLER (SOLO)
THE CEDAR
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

JAKE MILLER
W/ THE STOLEN
THE CEDAR
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

DOWNTOWN BOYS
W/ KITTEN FOREVER, XOXO TECH
TRIPLE ROCK
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

THROWING SHADE
WOMAN'S CLUB
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

ÁSGEIR
FINE LINE
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

CORBIN & SHLOHMO
AMSTERDAM
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

MANDOLIN ORANGE
FINE LINE
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

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SAT. AUGUST 5



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SAT. SEP 30



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CONTINUED FROM THURSDAY ►

Library, you can check a masterpiece out for free just like you would a book. For the summer installation, over 100 original works of art will be available to borrow. That includes paintings, photography, textiles, and sculpture. Take one for your office or your family room; it's yours for the next three months. More info can be found at www.artlending.org. 5 to 8 p.m. Free. Powderhorn Park, 3400 15th Ave. S., Minneapolis. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

FRIDAY 7.28

**BURLESQUE
CRITICAL STRIKE
NERDLESQUE FESTIVAL**

THE MINNSKY THEATRE

This weekend, performers from the Midwest will be simultaneously celebrating their sexy and geeky sides, creating a new form of striptease: nerdlesque. Some artists will sing cabaret-style, some will shimmy out of their clothes, some will twirl on a pole, and others will play with fire. While many of the costumes will sparkle, they will veer more toward bad-ass than titillating, with appearances from Darth Vader, She-Ra, and other superheroes and villains. The lineup includes Jac Fatale (head mistress of Minnsky Theatre), Tif Dynamite (Wicked Wenches Cabaret), and headliners Musette (Friday) and Sweetpea (Saturday), with guest appearances from Queenie Von Curves and the ExperTeasers Vaudeville Troupe. 18+. 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. \$15-\$20; \$25-\$35 for table and VIP seating (includes a free drink). 1517 Central Ave. NE, Minneapolis. **Through Saturday** —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER



Thankfully,
not your father

COURTESY OF NERDLESQUE

DOGS

2017 NE DOG PARADE

NORTHEAST MINNEAPOLIS

Start off your weekend with some much-needed cuteness at the NE Dog Parade. At 6 p.m., people and their pups—many in costume—will march through the Northeast Riverfront District, making for some adorableness for revelers out on patios during happy hour. After, folks will make their way to the riverfront to hang out and compete for top dog honors in costume and trick contests. Do you have a canine who would enjoy this type of thing? Bring your fur baby and meet across from Wilde Café and Spirits at 5 p.m. to join in. 5 to 7 p.m. Free. 65 Main St. SE, Minneapolis. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

SATURDAY 7.29

BIKES/FESTIVAL

GREENWAY GLOW 2017

MIDTOWN GREENWAY

How cool is it that Minneapolis has a highway for bikes? The Midtown Greenway, built on an abandoned railroad track a block off Lake Street, provides a car-free experience for bikers and pedestrians making their way across town. Each year, the Midtown Greenway Coalition, the organization that's tasked with making sure the trail is safe and clean for all users, fundraises by hosting the Greenway Glow, an event that includes a community arts festival and several different bike opportunities. The main festival, which is free, includes more than two dozen art installations, performances by local artists, and a slow-roll seven-mile ride at 8 p.m. There's also two VIP bike rides, which include free tacos and beverages, a T-shirt, and glow lights. One is 10 miles

A-LIST

at 8 p.m. and the other is at 8:45 p.m. Don't forget to wear a costume, as there are awards for the best looks, as well as prizes for the largest team and the top fundraisers. Registration and more info can be found at midtowngreenway.org. 7 p.m. to midnight. Free; \$35, plus \$15 minimum in raised funds. 2834 10th Ave. S., Minneapolis. —**SHEILA REGAN**

ART/GALLERY INTERFERENCE

SOO VISUAL ARTS CENTER

Acknowledgment and attempts at increasing understanding of how individuals with compromised abilities navigate the world of the able-bodied and fully sensory has finally reached the disciplines of architecture and design. Using virtual reality and computer monitoring, designers are putting themselves in the environments experienced by those with hearing loss, vision loss, and physical disabilities. Liza Sylvestre, an artist whose visceral paintings express an internal world of acute intelligence and primal sensibility, wears a cochlear implant. What she hears is drastically different from that of the hearing-able. Now, she's created a multimedia immersion into a world of drawings and video in which obfuscation and encryption allow us to approximate

her experiences, and sense the attendant psychological isolation she feels as a result. There will be an opening reception from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday, July 29, with an artist's talk at 5 p.m. Free. 2909 Bryant Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-871-2263.

Through August 26 —CAMILLE LEFEVRE

ART/ FESTIVAL LORING PARK ART FESTIVAL

LORING PARK

For years, the Loring Park Art Festival took place the same weekend as the Powderhorn and Uptown Art Fairs. In 2016, the happening struck out on its own, and still drew huge crowds. Now in its 18th year, the Loring Park Art Festival will return this weekend for two days of festivities on the edge of downtown. Over 140 artists working in a variety of mediums—including photography, pottery, painting, jewelry, and more—will be on hand. The event will also include live music, family activities, food, and plenty to explore. If you're looking to bus for free to the event, check out www.loringparkartfestival.com to download a pass. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Free. 1382 Willow St., Minneapolis.

Through Sunday —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

CONTINUED ON PAGE 31 ►

BARHOPPING/NERDERY

2ND ANNUAL HARRY POTTER BIRTHDAY PARTY

NORTHGATE BREWING

Hop on your Nimbus 2000 and head over to Northgate, where the Northeast brewery will be taking a page from Hogsmeade and welcoming wizards and magical creatures. During the day there will be games and hands-on fun for all ages, including a coloring station, a photobooth, and Quidditch beer pong (okay, that last one is just for adults). Try some sweets from Honeydukes, practice divination and potion making, and test your knowledge of the wizarding world during trivia. The Gryffindorks Greater Twin Cities of MN HPA Chapter will be in attendance, as will screen print artists and food trucks. A costume contest with prizes will be held at 8 p.m. Order up a pint of brew or a non-alcoholic Flying Cauldron Butterscotch Beer and feel the spell of the event take hold. Noon to 8 p.m. Free. 783 Harding St. NE, Minneapolis; 612-354-2858.

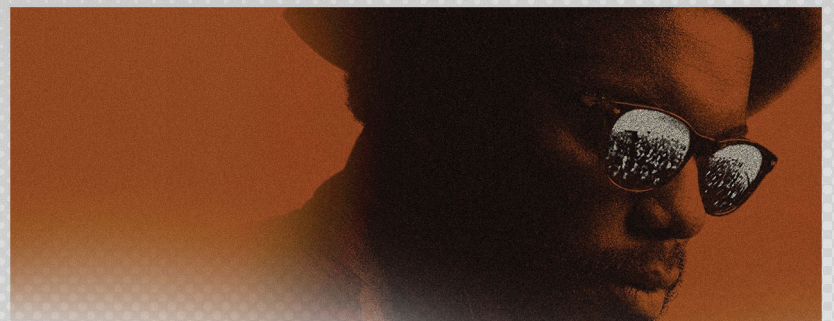
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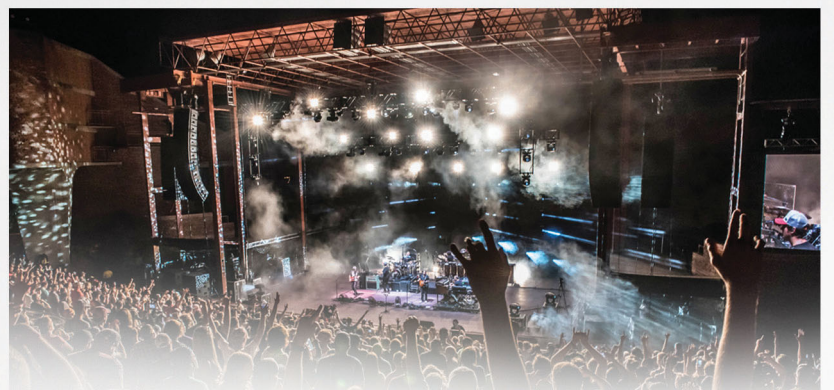


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CONTINUED FROM SATURDAY ►

BARHOPPING/PARTY

HOPCAT MINNEAPOLIS GRAND OPENING

HOPCAT MINNEAPOLIS

Amid the exhaustive renovation of Nicollet Mall, anyone navigating the congested detours of downtown Minneapolis deserves a drink. Thankfully, one of the new additions to the neighborhood offers relief. Originating from Grand Rapids, Michigan, HopCat will be opening its 14th location at the base of the apartment complex known as the Nic on 5th. Featuring over 80 craft

beers and ciders (including 30 selections from Minnesota brewers), HopCat is poised to serve as a refuge for thirsty downtowners. If cravings go beyond the liquid variety, there's also a variety of elevated pub staples on the menu. Those with a taste for the salty snacks will want to be among the first 200 visitors at the grand opening celebration, as each will receive a card granting one free order of "Crack Fries"—beer-battered fries served with a shake of pepper and a side of cheese sauce—every week for the following year. Late arrivals, however, can still receive a complimentary order of the fries during festivities, which should be

perfect for maintaining a digestive base while sampling through the impressive array of tasty beverages. 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. Free. 435 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis; 612-276-5555. —BRAD RICHASON

FESTIVAL

OWAMNI FALLING WATER FESTIVAL

FATHER HENNEPIN BLUFF PARK

The Owámmi Falling Water Festival is back for its fourth year at Father Hennepin Bluff Park, celebrating indigenous art, culture, and music in a family-friendly setting. Named after

the Dakota word for "falling water," the event includes lacrosse games (a sport with indigenous roots) and hands-on activities. There will be an art fair featuring contemporary American Indian works as well as traditional and fine arts. The musical lineup includes the Hoka Hey Drum Group, folk-rockers Blue Dog, Sicangu Lakota hip-hop artist Frank Waln, and the seven-time Native American Music Award winner Keith Secola. Food will be offered from Pow-Wow Grounds, the Sioux Chef, and Austin Barthold. 1 to 5 p.m. Free. 420 Main St. SE, Minneapolis. —SHEILA REGAN

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HORRIFYING DAYS AT DUNKIRK

There is no glorification here, only nightmares



In all its raw horror, *Dunkirk* is one of the best war movies in years.

MELINDA SUE GORDON

BY TONY LIBERA

American students are taught very little, if anything, about the Battle of Dunkirk in their history classes. That's a shame given its significance in World War II lore.

What seemed like certain slaughter for hundreds of thousands of British soldiers at the hands of advancing Nazi forces was circumvented by the most unlikely of means. With *Dunkirk*, writer-director Christopher Nolan takes us to the legendary beach, highlighting the brutality preceding the miracle escape.

The movie fictionalizes a few different main characters, telling their interconnected stories in a nonlinear format:

1. A young British private (Fionn Whitehead) tries to escape Dunkirk by any means possible—pretending to be a medic, sneaking aboard a departing ship,

hiding in an abandoned ship, whatever he can muster.

2. A couple of Royal Air Force pilots (Tom Hardy and Jack Lowden) circle Dunkirk, taking down Nazi bombers and Spitfires.

3. An old man (Mark Rylance) ventures toward Dunkirk to help evacuate the beach and encounters a soldier (Cillian Murphy) stuck out at sea.

It's been said that war is hell, and Christopher Nolan makes us feel as though we're literally in the underworld. His film communicates, as well as any movie could, the horror and anxiety these men must have felt standing unprotected on this tremendous beach as German planes dropped bombs and fired bullets over and over.

The movie takes on an existential vibe, something akin to *No Exit* or Godard's *Weekend*, as every time our protagonists try to escape, a ship sinks, or a bomb or

a bullet makes their return another fight for survival, and back they go to Dunkirk.

There is no glorification here, only nightmares. Three stories from three different vantage points: land, sea, and air. A desolate beach. A sprawling channel. An open sky.

Here, *Dunkirk* even looks like hell. Director of photography Hoyte van Hoytema's cinematography captures the vastness and isolation of the beach, which ordinarily would relate some sense of freedom, but in this moment conveys only a heightened sense of danger from every angle.

Hans Zimmer is back with another commanding score, leveraging continuous sound to raise the stakes, to toy with our senses, and keep us in a constant state of alert.

Dunkirk is a movie that masterfully encapsulates the dread of those nine

DUNKIRK

directed by Christopher Nolan
area theaters, now playing

horrifying days in France. Everything feels so intense that the movie hurtles along, never letting you take your eyes off the screen.

This is a full-body experience: Nolan's direction is so unrelenting that we find ourselves tensed for the entirety, the movie jumping between the storylines at their most amplified points. When the credits roll, there's almost a sense of relief that the strain has come to an end, along with the satisfaction of having seen a powerful film.

Of course, this is all to be expected from Christopher Nolan. He's one of the greatest directors in the world, and it's no surprise that he's made one of the best war movies in years. **C**

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Musician Jeff Ellington, who plays in three of the bands, exclaims, "All of us bands are so excited to get the opportunity to rock the stage at the Parkway! It's such a landmark theater in our neighborhood. Pepito's and the Parkway helped put our neighborhood on the map!"

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COMMUNITY GARDEN

White privilege fuels a ridiculous neighbor dispute

BY JAY GABLER

In the end, we all just want our own patches of ground where we can plant whatever appeals to us. That's one takeaway from *Native Gardens*, but playwright Karen Zacarias has also loaded this colorful 90-minute comedy with the argument that a shared humanity does not necessarily imply moral equivalence. That's a pretty heavy theme for a play about a flowerbed dispute, but Zacarias is ingenious in building layer upon layer onto a seemingly simple premise.

For the Guthrie's new production of the 2016 play, scenic designer Joseph Tilford has filled the McGuire Proscenium Stage with a detailed model of two historic houses, packed in close proximity in Washington, D.C. Tilford and his team had some precise specifications to work with, because the script is full of specific references to the houses' exteriors: a subject of increasingly heated debate between the Butleys and their new neighbors, the Del Valles.

Frank (Steve Hendrickson) and Virginia (Sally Wingert) Butley are white baby boomers who have lived in their house for decades, cultivating an immaculately groomed European-style garden—you could cut yourself on the corner of Frank's hedges. Moving into what used to be a neglected student rental, young Latinx couple Tania (Jacqueline Correa) and Pablo (Dan Domingues) Del Valle have aspirations to turn their yard into a native garden, with flowers indigenous to the Mid-Atlantic region. In other words, the kind of plants Frank regards as weeds.

Frank (Steve Hendrickson) and Virginia (Sally Wingert) Butley are white baby boomers who have lived in their house for decades, cultivating an immaculately groomed European-style garden—you could cut yourself on the corner of Frank's hedges. Moving into what used to be a neglected student rental, young Latinx couple Tania (Jacqueline Correa) and Pablo (Dan Domingues) Del Valle have aspirations to turn their yard into a native garden, with flowers indigenous to the Mid-Atlantic region. In other words, the kind of plants Frank regards as weeds.

At first, everything seems to go swimmingly. The Butleys embrace the Del Valles' proposal to replace an ancient chain-link fence with a stately new wood model—but the older couple are taken aback when a survey reveals that the long-forgotten property line runs right through Frank's flower bed. With a high-stakes weekend coming up for both couples (Pablo is hosting a party



DAN NORMAN

NATIVE GARDENS

Guthrie Theater
818 S. Second St., Minneapolis
612-377-2224; through August 20

for his coworkers, while Frank's garden is being judged for a competition), tensions flare over the 2-foot discrepancy.

Blake Robison, who commissioned and directed the world premiere in Cincinnati, heads the Guthrie production as well. He keeps the tone broad, and the domestic nature of the dispute gives the play a distinctly sitcom feel. This comedy, though, has a lot of bite, which Zacarias and Robison introduce without ever letting the show's momentum slack.

The plot's central conflict becomes a ripe case study in white privilege. Faced with the fact that they've long assumed ownership of something that's not actually theirs, the Buckleys take a defensive stance. In the play's most excruciatingly timely lines, the older couple argue that they're the victims of discrimination. Deciding that their wealthy, white status is being held against them, Virginia declares, "That's classicism and racism!"

What this show demands of its actors, rather than subtlety, is crack comic timing and generous collaboration. All four leads come through, with the result that the production remains engaging and entertaining amid all the slings and arrows. It's a summer show you'll find substantive and resonant, no matter which side of the fence you're on. **C**

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STREET *Style*

VIVE LA COUTURE Bastille Day celebrations brought out some très cool looks. **BY ELLEN LAWSON**



ARI APPLEWHITE

32, CONTRACTOR, MUSICIAN, AND DJ

What are you wearing?

H&M skinny jeans, tank top, and hat, Vans shoes, Mya Lambrecht jewelry.

Describe your style:

Rock 'n' roll skater with a little artsy funk. Lenny Kravitz and Anderson Paak's love child.

What is better: French food or fashion?

This is hard because I love crème brûlée but fashion wins.

What is your dream vacation?

Backpacking and hostels in Europe, then to Africa, then Asia, and ends with exploring ancient ruins in South America.



MERCEDES MUÑOZ

22, ASSISTANT APPAREL
WHOLESALE ADMIN

What are you wearing?

H&M glasses and shoes, Zara dress, Marc Jacobs purse.

Describe your style:

Modern and chic.

What is better: French food or French fashion?

Fashion.

What is your dream vacation?

Lying on the beach in Greece.



VIENNA WILSON

33, NONPROFIT OFFICE MANAGER

What are you wearing?

Two head wraps—the black one was made from an old T-shirt, the red was my mother's that she wore in college. Urban Outfitters crop top, H&M skirt, earrings by Larissa Loden.

Describe your style:

AfroPunk.

What is better: French food or French fashion?

Food.

What is your dream vacation?

I have a lot of friends in Brooklyn; I would love to have two weeks free to spend with them.



JENNIFER DAVY

43, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

What are you wearing?

Dress from Lula Vintage Wear, Sven Clogs, thrifted handbag.

Describe your style:

Vintage mixed with J.Crew.

What is better: French food or French fashion?

Fashion.

What is your dream vacation?

Airstream camping in Big Sur.

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11am-3pm

main stage

Tappy Hour
4pm-6pm

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Dangerous
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6pm-9pm

Karaoke
9pm-12am

★ SATURDAY ★

boardwalk

Mosaic on a Stick
(free drop-in art
workshop for all ages)
11am-3pm

main stage

KFAI Vinyl Voices
Saturday Matinee
12pm-2pm

Candy Fresh Live
Dance Audition
8pm-12am

★ SUNDAY ★

boardwalk

Mosaic on a Stick
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main stage

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Humanity
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PHILOSOPHY IN THE TAPROOM

Insatiable gluttons for punishment the Blight devour the multiverse

BY ROD SMITH

“Our situation is unusual,” Jesse Whitney explains. “Because technically, we’re not a metal band.” He pauses long enough to make, then hold, eye contact as the HammerHeart Taproom’s warm, late-afternoon din fills the space around and between us. “But we *are* a metal band.”

Like drummer Tim Glenn and vocalist Travis Bos (both also sitting at our barrel-table), the synthesist is mildly obsessed with his band’s curious genre three-way—and not without reason. The Blight are one of the first, if not the first, musical entities on the planet to marry black metal, experimental electronics, and jazz-indebted free improvisation. It wasn’t something they sat down and mapped out in advance.

“Tim and I starting doing improv,” Whitney says, “just synth and drums—it was a lot spacier—in 2011? We did that for a while. It kinda ran its course and we just let it sit for a bit. Then we started talking about doing it again, but making it more aggressive—a lot faster and a lot meaner. We did one show and it just kinda wasn’t quite there.”

“It was cool but it lacked something,” Glenn adds. “We knew Travis from here and from seeing him around at shows, so we knew the three of us liked a lot of the same music. We approached him, gave it a try, and, boom—instant fit. From the beginning, there was very much a natural chemistry to it.”

“They asked me shortly after a HammerHeart-sponsored Halloween show at Acadia,” Bos says. “I threw chairs in other bands during that period. Tim and Jesse just wanted someone to throw chairs at people.”

“Not just chairs,” Whitney says. “I was talking with a friend who was a big Zarathustra fan back in the day, and when he found out I was working with Travis he said, ‘Oh, man, I remember one show where Travis was all up in this guy’s face and he put his fingers in the guy’s mouth. He was exploring his mouth while he sang.’”

Unpredictability aside, what’s most unusual about the band is their burgeoning popularity. Not that they have legions



The Blight, with guest guitarist Jesse Matthew Petersen.

JASON LARKIN

of imitators like Minneapolis-based prometalcore vectors After the Burial or marina-rock sensations Haim—it’s a little too early in the game for that. But the past year (they’ve been together for five) has seen them go from playing the occasional show and releasing nothing to maintaining a schedule that’s included month-long residencies at Acadia and Grumpy’s Downtown (twice), along with a slew of one-offs. In the same interval they’ve dropped three albums—or will have when *Meditations on Insignificance* comes out on Saturday.

Three things set the album apart from both the band’s self-titled debut and *Escalation*, released late last year on HammerHeart sales and marketing manager Joe Beres’ woefully under-recognized Small Doses imprint. First, it’s on a metal label, the esteemed NYC-based Tridroid Records; second, it features guitarist Jesse Matthew Petersen, who’ll also be performing with the band at Saturday night’s Icehouse release show, and third, it’s a fully self-contained representation of the band’s anti-human, anti-cosmic philosophy.

Such belief systems are far from uncommon among metal bands, but it’s usually a full-blown Satanic religion/lifestyle thing—occasionally with unfortunate consequences. (Google “Dissection” and “Jon Nödtveidt” for an excellent example.) The Blight would rather pretend to be the malignant AI antagonist of Vernor Vinge’s *A Fire Upon the Deep*. While riffing on a dark SF novel almost surely offers fewer perverse thrills than glorifying murder and suicide as the most

exalted possible sacraments, it’s also a helluva lot less likely to land practitioners in any hoosegows and/or morgues.

Intentionally or otherwise, the first few measures of *Meditations* sound almost identical to the opening of Napalm Death’s classic debut, *Scum*.

The Blight’s album quickly gains a density and brutality far beyond anything the U.K. grindcore pioneers could’ve imagined in 1986 and retains it throughout “Self” and “Humanity.” As the band proceed outward, from “Planet” to “Star” to “Galaxy,” the music becomes more spacious without losing a single quantum of intensity. Bos in particular comes off scary

AF no matter how many times he switches up vocal approaches and/or effects settings. Which is a lot.

Novel as the Blight’s admixture is, it was also inevitable. Metal’s been flirting with jazz and experimental music for at least 25 years as part of a massive acquisition spree that’s also claimed huge chunks of post-rock (along, of course, with post-metal), noise rock, industrial music, shoegaze, hardcore, crust punk, heavy psych, and even some kinds of acoustic music, as its own. Not to mention that genre bifurcation, mutation, and recombination are accelerating at roughly the same rate as climate change. (Dark orchestral tropical chillstep is surely just around the corner, if it doesn’t exist already.)

HammerHeart itself is a hotbed of musical cross-germination—let’s take a quick look at personnel. Label owner Joe Beres we’ve already touched on. Co-founder and co-proprietor Austin Lunn first made an international name for himself as one-man band Panopticon topping a blend of traditional Appalachian acoustic music and ferocious black metal with passionate anticapitalist lyrics of a strong environmentalist bent.

Almost surely the first dude in metal to have his label gift him a dulcimer, staffer Tanner Anderson has been a (or the) chief instigator in endeavors ranging from the harmonically lush black metal of Azrael to the highly atmospheric funeral doom metal of Celestial to the melodic pre-Black Death black/death/doom metal of Autumnal Winds. The last of these were the aesthetic progenitors of Anderson’s main squeeze so far this decade, Obsequiae (artfully blackened medieval metal with psychedelic undertones, a spring in its gait, and the occasional frothy maritime finish). His current extracurricular activities include membership in Burning—fellow HammerHeart Seth Ryan’s bold, conceptually precise reinvention of industrial music—and occasionally helping Lunn out with backing vocals. He’s also largely responsible for rekindling Glenn’s long-latent metal flame, just as Glenn did for Whitney and Bos.

“Metal was the reason I started playing drums in the first place,” he says. “I was a death metal kid as a teenager, started getting into jazz around age 19, got heavily into free jazz and free improvisation in my early 20s, and went all over the place from there. Most of what I do now has some relationship to metal.”

While they’re more than happy to talk about genre for hours (and I have the record-

THE BLIGHT’S RELEASE SHOW

for *Meditations on Insignificance* is Saturday, July 29, 11 p.m., at Icehouse, 2528 Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis; 612-276-6523.

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MUSIC

ing to prove it), it's method that makes the Blight what they are. While the components of their individual styles remain open to outside forces, they're collectively hooked on improvisation.

"What we do from show to show, from record to record might sound familiar," Bos says, "but it's never going to sound the same. I'm in two other bands where we write songs and we learn them, period. With the Blight, it's refreshing to have both the power of those bands and opportunities to explore territories they can never go into, ever. Also, because everything we do is improvised, I don't even have to worry about remembering lyrics, which I very much appreciate. The day I catch myself writing a song for the Blight is the day I quit." **EF**

CRITICS' PICKS

AMADOU AND MARIAM

CEDAR CULTURAL CENTER, THURSDAY, 7.27

Desert blues will always be at the core of their sound, but this blind, Malian-born/Paris-based husband and wife duo have adapted to varied pop production techniques without ever sounding slick or money-grubbing. They broadened their audience in 2005 with the footloose Euro-reggae of the Manu Chao-produced *Dimanche à Bamako*, went for an even brighter sound in 2009 with *Welcome to Mali*, then collaborated with American rockers like Nick Zinner of the Yeah Yeah Yeahs and Tunde Adebimpe and Kyp Malone of TV on the Radio on *Foilia* in 2012. Judging from the electronic groove of "Bofou Safou," their first track in five years, their upcoming album *La Confusion* may be their greatest stylistic departure yet. But if their past recordings are any indication, the new music will sound like Amadou and Mariam no matter how much their sound changes. *All ages. 7 p.m. \$45. 416 Cedar Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-338-2674. —KEITH HARRIS*

SLIM CESSNA'S AUTO CLUB

TURF CLUB, THURSDAY 7.27

With a penchant for harrowing, punk-infused fire-and-brimstone conflagrations, Slim Cessna's mob definitely ain't no AAA. The Denver band prefer the term "gothic Americana" for their roiling hurricane of dark gospel, psychobilly, country, freak-folk, and rock, while the lyrics rage about sin and damnation with Pentecostal fury. The Club members are a bit less apocalyptic on their latest album, last fall's *The Commandments According To SCAC*, sometimes edging toward the folk end of their turbulent equation; the lyrics are often more surreal, even playful and whimsical, than bilious. Jay Munly wrote all the tunes, a 10 Commandments

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MUSIC CRITICS' PICKS

countdown with only slim connections to the Bible's more popular lineup. Instead, Munly discusses Pinocchio-like dependency, shapeshifting queen snakes, fear of outsiders, diving horse sideshows, and obsessive pursuit of kitschy bling. All the while a banjo plucks ominously and electric guitars lurk, ready to go careening into the void. Come to think about it, he's nailed the religious experience. Swallows open. 21+. \$13-\$15. 1601 University Ave., St. Paul; 651-647-0486. —RICK MASON

ANDRÉ CYMONE

TURF CLUB, FRIDAY 7.28

More than 40 years after he began making music with Prince, Minneapolis native André Cymone is making up for lost time. His futuristic take on the Minneapolis Sound dominated his early- and mid-'80s records—with '85's AC featuring the ecstatic, Prince-penned hit "The Dance Electric"—but Cymone would later contribute songwriting and production for everyone from Pebbles to Tom Jones. After going 19 years without releasing a solo record, he returned in 2014 with the greasy Stones stomp and fiery Hendrix psychedelia of *The Stone*. The 59-year-old's newest record is April's 1969, inspired, in part, by the positive and negative connections he sees between the America of that year and that of the present day. Though it's essentially a hard-rock record, it's most affecting during moments like the contemplative acoustic number "Black Lives Matter." ZULUZULUU open. 21+. 8 p.m. \$15. 1601 University Ave., St. Paul; 651-647-0486. —MICHAEL MADDEN

BIG FANCY GO SHOW

OUTSIDE THE FINE LINE, SUNDAY 7.30

Earlier this month, the visual for Wiz Khalifa's soaring pop-rap No. 1 hit "See You Again" surpassed Psy's "Gangnam Style" video as the most-viewed YouTube upload of all time. So to say Wiz has transcended his initial labeling as a weed rapper is an understatement. While he doesn't have Kendrick's sprawling ambition or Drake's pop versatility, Wiz has long been able to stuff a setlist with stylistically wide-ranging bangers, from melodic mega-hits to hard trap deep cuts. He's also more prolific than he gets credit for, with his two mixtapes from June, *Pre-Rolleds* and *Bong Rips*, doing big online numbers despite little fanfare. For this Go 95.3 FM-presented outdoor mini-fest, Wiz will be joined by Long Beach's Vince Staples, whose heavily electronic *Big Fish Theory* is not only whip-smart but also one of the year's most forward-thinking rap LPs. Also performing: Blackbear and locals Bobby Raps, Finding Novyon, and Mac Irv. 18+. 3 p.m. \$45.95-\$95. First Avenue and Fourth Street North, Minneapolis; 612-338-8100. —MICHAEL MADDEN



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Creepers

My stepdaughter got hot and it's freaking me out

I'm a reader in Kansas with two teenage daughters, 16 and 18. My girls recently met a boy where they work and both took an interest in him. The 18-year-old was devastated that he was more interested in her younger sister. I spoke to the 16-year-old about it, which is when I found out this boy is going to be a sophomore in college. The fact that he's interested in a 16-year-old is a red flag. I asked the 16-year-old to keep her distance. She agreed, but I saw a shirtless photo he sent her. I don't know what other photos he's sent, and I don't know what she's sent him, but I immediately removed all photo apps from her phone. The girls have had public fights about this boy. They've made peace with each other, but now my 18-year-old wants to date him. I can't control the actions of an 18-year-old but (1) this guy seems like a complete creep and (2) isn't her relationship with her sister more important?

KNOWING A NUMBSKULL STALKS
ADORABLE SISTERS

I'm not ready to pronounce this guy a creep—at least not for the age difference. You say this boy is going to be a sophomore in college, but don't give his age. If this boy went straight to college from high school, that would make him 19 years old. If your 16-year-old is closing in on 17, this guy could be "older" by two years and change. While I can understand why you wouldn't want your younger daughter dating college boys, I think you are overreacting to the age difference.

You ordered your 16-year-old to stop seeing this guy and deleted apps from her phone. (It's cute you think your daughter isn't tech-savvy enough to re-download and hide all the same apps.) You should warn your daughter about the risks of sexting—it may be legal for her to have sex (16 is the age of consent in Kansas), but she could face child porn charges for sending photos, and this boy could wind up on a sex-offender registry for receiving them. Otherwise, don't attempt to micromanage your daughters' love lives. Parental disapproval has a way of driving teenagers into each other's arms. Let them work through this on their own—but go ahead and stitch "boys come and go but sisters are forever" on a couple of pillows and put them on their beds.

I'm a straight guy married to a wonderful woman. She has a daughter. This girl's bio



Dan Savage

dad is a deadbeat, so I have played "dad" since I met her mom five years ago. The girl who used to be a gangly, awkward 11-year-old is now 16, and there's no other way to put this: She is hot. I'm not supposed to notice, I know, and I have ZERO interest in being creepy with her, but she has always liked to cuddle with me and still does. I believe safe closeness from a dad figure helps girls make good choices when it comes to boys. But when she comes in wearing tiny shorts and puts her legs over my lap, I get rock hard. I'm not trying to be creepy, but I'm a

**"I'm not trying
to be creepy,
but I'm a guy..."**

guy, and she's a perfect female specimen. I can't say, "We can't be as physically close as we used to be," because that itself would be creepy and it would make her sad.

INSERT DAD ACRONYM HERE OBVIOUSLY

Sometimes children grow up and get hot, and bonus adults in their lives can't help but notice. The onus is on the adult in that situation to suppress all evidence of said awareness. Which means setting boundaries and, if necessary, keeping your distance. No, you shouldn't go to your stepdaughter and say, "You got hot, and I get boners when you put your legs on my lap, so stop." But you should put an end to the cuddling. When she plops down on the couch, go take a walk or a shower or a shit. Better she has a sad over the end of snuggle time than she notices your boners and feels unsafe around you. Also, if you don't want to come across as a creep, don't describe your stepdaughter—or any other woman—as a "perfect female specimen." Ick.

mail@savagelove.net

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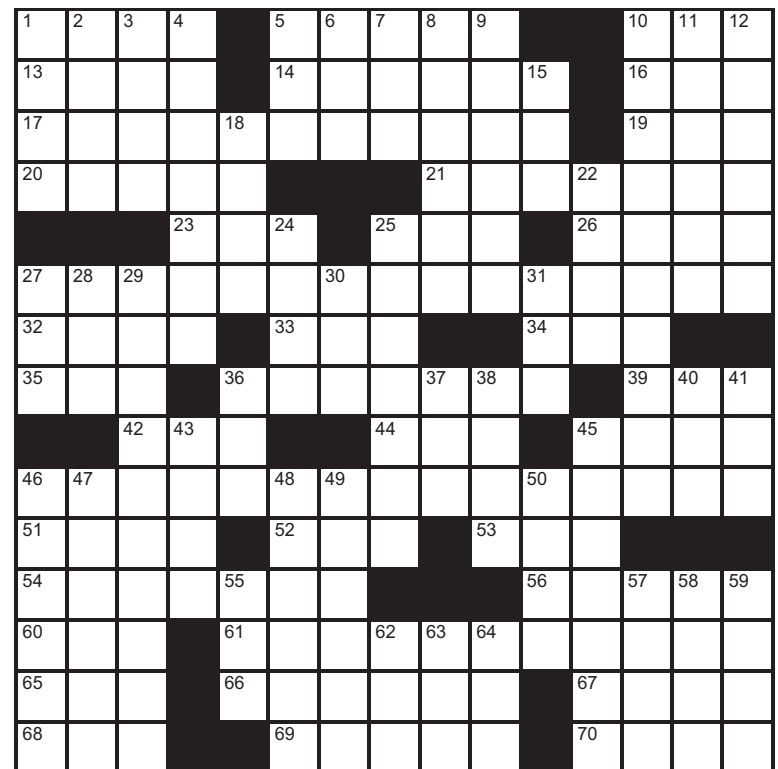
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Across

1. Turned on the waterworks
5. Bored by everything
10. Babe
13. "I was ___ joking!"
14. Where you might see the big picture
16. Palindromic river of England
17. Bad guy who can't see too far into the future?
19. Two ___ time
20. The "B" in "Notorious RBG"
21. One crying "Uncle"
23. Sox town, on scoreboards
25. Guest's bed
26. Queequeg's boss
27. Freedom from gas relief medicine?
32. Israeli leader Golda
33. Spot for a barbed wire band or random Chinese letters
34. Understanding
35. Cuban guy?
36. "I'm laughing so hard" in memes, and theme of this puzzle
39. Low-risk savings options
42. Panama pronoun
44. Company softball pitch
45. Hit the mall
46. Unexplained neurosurgery?
51. Tiny amount
52. Day before
53. Mud bath spot

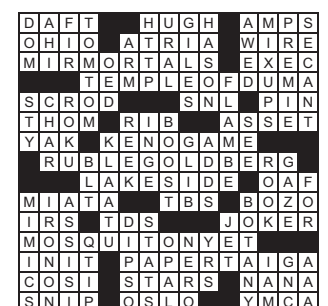
54. Whiskey, rum, tequila, vodka and Coke drink
56. Best of the best
60. Even if, briefly
61. "Best Chatty Bird Recording" award?
65. Eternity
66. Do a parody of
67. Indian butter
68. Rum drink on a cold night
69. College heads
70. Young lads

Down

1. Twin's first home
2. Singer with the album "Shepherd Moons"
3. Walk heavily
4. Smith Corona part that has two characters on it
5. Discreet email letters
6. Driver's position?
7. Delta fighter Coulter
8. "Adios"
9. First name of the NFL's career rushing leader
10. Big cheese
11. Yoked beasts
12. Close at hand
15. Approving word
18. Golf club
22. "Shady ___" (Pavement single)
24. Boxer's order
25. "Free Women, Free Men" author Paglia
27. "Smells delish!"
28. Approving word

29. Yellow bracelet non-profit
30. "___ Poetica"
31. Gives the thumbs up
36. Simpsons character with a shotgun
37. Diaper solid
38. Pulls back
40. BDSM aggressor
41. Stratego piece
43. ___ Smith (Adidas sneaker brand)
45. Prison camps
46. Winter covering
47. Chocolate drink
48. Made more green, say
49. Actress Orji of "Insecure"
50. 0 letters
55. Mornings
57. "Editorially speaking"
58. Government stooges
59. Looks over
62. Colgate letters
63. Barbarous brute
64. Smartphone setting

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